

fee. They were so full of their new little book, and the fresh lesson which Mr. Stubbs had set them, that they could not help, every now and then, pulling out the book and looking at it. Thus they were doing as they happened to pass the 'Squire's house, which was perceived by Master Simpson, and out he came.

I must acquaint you, my pretty little readers, that Master Simpson was, as too many of the children of the rich are, a spoiled child, and indulged to the greatest excess in every thing. He was about the age, but somewhat stouter than Amintor, and yet, though he had variety of tutors in the house, he could hardly read. But this is not to be wondered at, when we consider, that he studied only just when he pleased, and you may suppose that was not often.

This Master Simpson, seeing a book in the hands of our little moralists, came up to them, and asked them what they

did with a book, and how they came by it; adding, that they had better mind their sheep, and look after their concerns at home, than think about reading. He did not comprehend, he said, that any body had a right to learn to read but rich people; for it only made poor people saucy, and neglectful of their business. If they learned the Lord's Prayer, the Belief, and the Ten Commandments, that was enough for poor people to know, as the parson would tell them the rest.

"It is an idle question, Master Simpson, (replied Amintor) to ask us what we are doing with this book, because you see we are reading it. As to asking us how we came by it, though it is a rude question, I will tell you it was kindly lent us by our good parson Stubbs, to whom we have just now been reading the history of a naughty boy, and I think, if